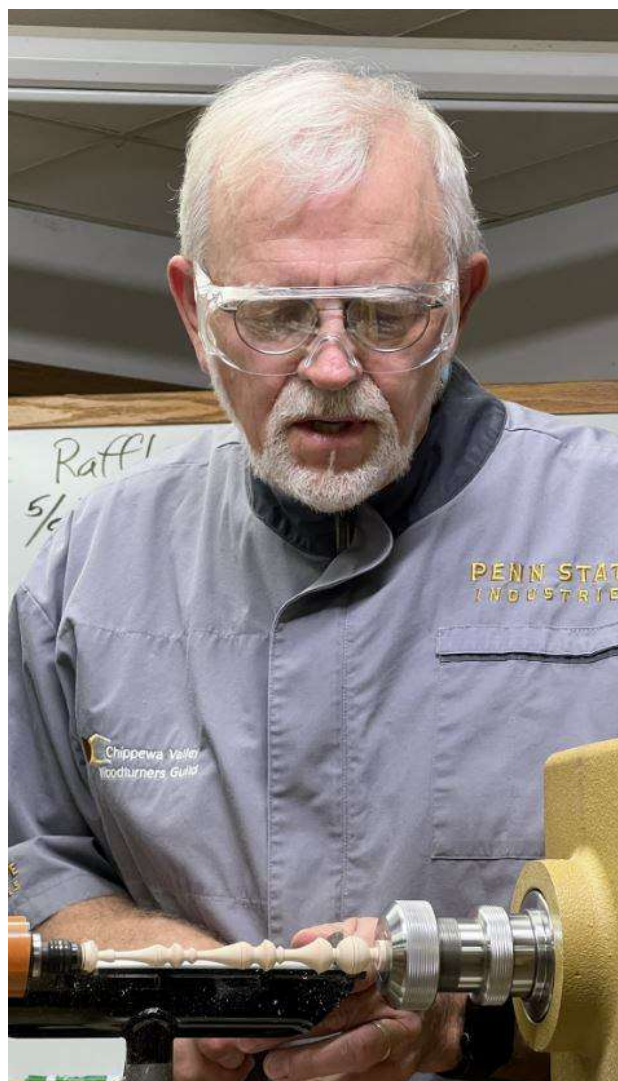


TURNING

Threads

October 2026



Dan Brandner demonstrated fancy spindle turning of an icicle ornament

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AAW

AMERICAN ASSOCIATION
OF WOODTURNERS

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Hi All,

We had a good attendance for our October meeting.

My Demo making a fancy spindle icicle ornament seemed to be well received. It highlighted turning with a skew which was pertinent to the skew classes that occurred the following week.

We had a small turnout for the Open House, but a few came to turn, sharpen tools or use the band saw.

It is not too late to sign up for beginning classes. If any more sign up, we will have a second class in the spring. The first round of classes will begin on November 12th.

I won't be at our November meeting, but Bob Eberhardt will cover it and also do the demo... a lamp base with a long drilled hole.

Hope everyone can make it.

Dan



Monthly Meetings

First Wednesday
of the month

Board Meeting at
6:00 pm

Social Hour at 6:00 pm

Meeting and
Demonstration

7:00 pm to 9:00 pm

Open House

Second Saturday
of the month

8:00 am to 12:00 pm

**Members and interested persons may contact the
Chippewa Valley Woodturners Guild by email at:
woodturnercvvg@gmail.com**

Raffles

The raffle was drawn at the start of our October meeting, and the Sorby 1/16" thin parting tool was won by Steve Hay. He was not present at the meeting, but the parting tool is his. (see photo)

Then the next raffle has started for a Robust 5/8" bowl gouge. This is a nice one for roughing large blanks. See Sue, our treasurer for tickets.

Classes

The skew classes were conducted the week of October 12th. There were a few absences for various reasons. The class is a short one and we can repeat it at another date next year.

Beginning class dates have been set for the Fall course, and will begin on November 12th at 7:00 pm. We want to limit the class to 6-7 participants so each has a lathe. If there are any more sign-ups, we will plan another class another after the first of the year.

Demos for 2027

We are still seeking ideas for demos in 2027, and others willing to share their experiences.

Following the fancy spindle icicle ornament demo in October, the president's challenge was for our club members to try their hand at turning one. Entries will be judged at the November meeting with the winner receiving a \$5 gift card.

Though the months have not been established, some demos for 2027 will be...

- Salt cellar – Bob Eberhardt

- Wine goblet base – Doug Danen

- McNaughton Coring nested bowls – Dan Brandner

- Some kind of door stop – Chip Troost

- Safety and Accident stories – various members

- Making and using jamb chucks - ?

- Two axis spoon or ladle - ?

Our Landlord, Pat Smith

A Gift Certificate was procured and given to Pat Smith for providing an ideal venue for our club at a very low rate. I met with him and he is happy with our arrangement and for being a good tenant. (see photos)

Although he sold the Eau Claire Insulation business, he still owns the building so nothing should change for us. I believe he is done assisting the new owners at the end of the year.

He did inform us that he was looking for a space for an office away from his home, and would be planning on using the room we were currently using for photography. To that end, that room was cleared out during our open house so that he could begin its remodeling. Further rearranging was made in our board office and with the tables in our clubhouse. Photography will now take place in a corner in the office.

Hopefully our arrangement with Pat Smith will continue for many years to come.

TVs and Cameras

One of our TVs is giving us issues and the same goes for one of our cameras. The problem TV was removed and replaced and has now been hooked up to only the overhead camera for higher detail. Thank you for the work Bob Eberhardt. The other screen will show the other cameras. A camera replacement will be considered, or rearranging the cameras and eliminating one of them.

Dan Brandner

Raffle Winner

Steve Hay for the parting tool.



The Vandalized House

Part 2

There didn't seem to be anything unusual in the front of the house and the right end did look like a garage. As they rounded the corner, they were surprised that it was for three cars.

"What are these symbols, A.G." Asked Goody.

A.G. looked at the symbols which were on all three doors. It was two crossed butcher knives. "I should have researched this house first. Would have back in Milwaukee. Getting old I suppose."

Three of the woodturners were perplexed at A.G. He was staring at the symbols and shaking his head. "Damn."

"Are you going to tell us or not!" said Goody with exasperation.

"These are the logos of Maxie the Butcher from Milwaukee."

"That doesn't sound good, A.G. Should we leave now?" Said an anxious Goody.

"Maxie was killed ten years ago in Chicago. He disappeared at least ten years before that. The FBI could never locate him. It will be a surprise to the FBI to learn where he was at."

"Maybe you wouldn't have to tell them, A.G."

"Well, this is certainly unexpected." Commented A.G. "Getting more and more in the rotten smell category."

"Are we going to continue?"

"Yes. Knowing Maxie was here, tells me that Kopinski is the one looking for something. Maybe Maxie left a stash and Kopinski wants to find it."

"A.G., if there is a stash what makes Kopinski think you would tell him or even share it with him if you found it."

"I think that there being more than me involved complicated things but he was stuck with his van-

dalization story."

Further around the house, Snid's eyes widened and he began walking toward the woods. "Look at all this guys. I wonder if Kopinski can let us have some of these trees to turn."

The three looked at Snid and with one voice said, "NO!"

Snid gave them a disappointed look and said, "I think it's a good idea."

"We have enough wood and I don't recall that we are playing the last one who has the most wood wins. I for one do not want a lot of rotting wood by the shop." A.G. emphasized.

"Listen Snid, you are the only one still using wood heat in the winter. If you need wood, get some to burn. Beside you're too old to be harvesting trees and splitting them." Added Goody. "Come to think of it, how do you get your firewood?"

"Brubaker has it cut for me by the Crowley brothers. It will be late because those monster farm machines are having problems and the Crowley brothers need to get them up and running by harvest time."

"Continuing on." A.G. said with some exasperation."

All four saw the broken basement window and looked over it carefully. It was dark in the basement so details were hard to make out. "I suppose this was the way they got into the house?" Commented E.G.

"Yeah, but why is the window still latched?" A.G. observed.

"What! Oh." Said Snid.

"The supposed vandals didn't go in the house this way. It would have had to be unlatched and opened to get in to avoid getting cut trying to get in. Once they were in, why relatch a window with a broken pane? Let's keep looking."

"What are we looking for, A.G., asked Goody.

“Anything unusual.”

“What do you call unusual?” Asked Goody.

“Hm, good question. Anything out of the ordinary. For instance, take your own homes and think about what would be normal around the house. Usually there might be an air conditioner, an electric meter, dryer outlet, faucets, hoses and maybe a gas meter.”

“Oh, yeah that would be normal. There is an electric meter. It’s not working. Is that not normal?” Asked Goody.

“Exactly. If Kopinski stayed here, why wouldn’t he have the electric turned on. Speaking of electric meters, if you remember me telling you about my fellow detective in Madison, Floyd. He has an occasional partner by the name of Eve, just Eve. Most of her time is taken up by her commitment to a foundation. A foundation in which gives help to deserving people.”

“I wonder if I could qualify?” Snid queried.

“Maybe. Continuing on, Eve pops up in some of the unexpected places. This particular place was a small town in Missouri where an FBI agent was investigating the death of a person of interest. He wasn’t having much progress because he was hung up on finding a tunnel said to be built by a boot-legger on the 1920s. It existed he was told but couldn’t figure out how to get into it.

“Eve showed up and offered her help. Now, FBI agents weren’t high on her list of favorite people. The FBI had been trying to capture her because she was thought to be an alien of some sort. They even went to the point of kidnapping Floyd and his receptionist in an effort to lure her. Didn’t work.”

“Um, what do you mean an alien of some sort?” Asked Snid with a confused look.

A.G. was busy looking over the exterior of the house and answered in a nonchalant way. “Oh, they couldn’t figure out how she got around. She would show up in places all over the world and

had no visible means of transportation. Naturally, they thought she was an extraterrestrial and got around in a space ship.”

“Wait a minute A.G., did you believe that?” Asked Goody.

“Well, it’s not so much what I believe but what the FBI believed. After several years of trying to capture her, they finally gave up. Floyd said since they couldn’t locate her space ship, she was no use to them.”

“Floyd said that! So, he believed she was from another planet.” Asked E.G.

“He always called her a Witch with a capital W. Guess that was his way of avoiding the subject.”

“Well, what did she look like? Asked E.G.

“I met her and I agreed with Floyd that she was more beautiful than a woman should be.”

“What kind of statement is that?”

“You would have to see her to come to any conclusion. Continuing, so, showing up to help an FBI agent was unusual but that was the way she was. Anyway, Eve pointed out that there were two electric meters in back of the dead man’s house. One was registering a normal electric flow that was consistent with the house. The other meter was going so fast that it was a wonder that it didn’t fly apart.

“The FBI agent had noticed this but he was too fixated on the tunnel that he thought it had something to do with the tunnel. Eve said it didn’t have anything to do with the tunnel. How she knew that wasn’t explained. Instead, she had the FBI agent call the power company and send out someone to trace the line coming off the fast meter. The line detection showed the line went from that house to a house 300 yards away. The very house that the dead man was dumped.

“Other things didn’t add up. The house that the power line ran to had a new shed. That house was occupied by an elderly couple who were not farming. Why a new large shed? Checking with the

county permits for the building, it was noted that the shed had a basement.”

“A what! A basement under a shed? I’d like to see that.” Exclaimed Snid.

“Turned out that the basement was full of computers that were a data center for the St. Louis Syndicate.”

“Okay, so why was the guy killed?” Asked E.G.

“He was skimming and the syndicate found out about it.”

“Oh, I guess that would do it. Well, A.G., I don’t see an extra meter or anything else.”

“Then let’s move on.” Said A.G.

Further around the house, they came to the addition to the house. A.G. looked at the foundation and murmured something. He looked very carefully at the foundation and then asked, “Is there a basement under this addition?”

“Um, why do you say that?” asked Goody.

“Think about your house, Goody. What do basements usually have on the outside?”

“Oh, windows. Of course. Is this something that is unusual?”

“I would think so. The original house has two windows in the back of the house. Maybe they thought it was enough. Still.”

“Maybe it doesn’t have a basement but a concrete floor. That would account for it” Added E.G.

“Maybe.” Answered A.G.

Continuing around the house, the side of the house foundation didn’t have any windows either. Nothing on the side of the house was unusual so they turned the corner to the front of the house. The front had a wide porch with wood railings that could use some repair but otherwise appeared solid enough. As they got on the porch there was the scream of a siren.

“Guess who?” Said E.G.

As usual, Sheriff Barton came to a dramatic stop spuing gravel on A.G.’s SUV. Out he came with his usual swagger and hands on hips. He didn’t say anything at first, just looked at the ground apparently getting his speech ready.

He started slow and picked up speed as he talked. “A.G. Do you realize that you are interfering with a police investigation?” He paused and then shouted. “Again.”

A.G. looked at his watch seemingly indicating disinterest then answered with a slow measure voice. “Well, Barton. We have permission from the owner and he told us you were not interested in investigating and dismissed it as unsolvable. There doesn’t seem to be a sign or tape indicating that it is a crime scene so did you suddenly develop an interest because we are here?”

“I am not suddenly interested in investigation. I just, haven’t got around to fitting in on my schedule.” Barton said with irritation.

All four woodturners broke out in loud laughter to the point of Snid and Goody were falling down and A.G. and E.G. nearly did also.

That didn’t go over well with Barton and he shouted, “That is disrespect of the law. I ought to run you baby boomer codgers in!”

That brought further laughter from the four. When they finally stopped laughing, Snid asked, “Are we baby boomers, A.G.?”

“Doesn’t matter, Snid. Well, Barton, since you have revised your interest in investigating this crime, then I will offer you to be the lead in the investigation.”

That stunned Barton. “Um, I have other things to do. Let me know what your find.” He said rather with embarrassment and turned around and went to his squad. He pounded the top and got in and scattered the gravel once more.

“That was genius, A.G. Well, what is the score now. Four to nothing.”

Inside, it was a mess. Nothing appeared to be untouched. Furniture was turned over and ripped. The walls looked like a wrecking ball was brought in just for the occasion. There was no doubt that whoever did this was looking for something of value and not a case of just vandalism for the sake of vandalism. Another feature of the interior was that it was dusty as if the owner never made an effort to clean it up from years of being unoccupied.

E.G. gave the place a good look turning back and forth a couple of times. "Jeez, A.G., looks like a cyclone went through here!"

Snid looked at a leather chair that had been expensive and asked A.G. "Are going to take fingerprints or something. Looks like a good place."

With hands on his hips, A.G. replied that it wasn't necessary at least for us. It would have been Barton's job. "You three start the investigation. I'm going out the back and see if I can surprise the brother-in-law."

A.G. had seen him in the trees on the right side so, he left the house and walked to the left side and in the trees. He then circled around deep enough in the woods that he wouldn't be spotted. Coming around to the right side, he silently crept toward where he thought the brother-in-law would be. Within a few yards, he stood up and said, "Care to join us in our investigation?"

He was startled but stood his ground. "What's it to you?" He replied.

"I don't know your name but I know that you are or were Harold Kopinski brother-in-law. And you threatened him recently."

"So, what's it to you?"

"Hm, not much for conversation, are you? Just why were you following us if it's not too much trouble."

"I came up here to talk to Harold."

"To make good on your threat?"

"No. I wanted to tell him he wasn't worth another thought."

"He's not here. He went back to Madison."

"Why are you here?"

"Harold thinks that there is treasure to be found. But he has been unable to locate it, so we were hired to find it for him although he doesn't know that I know. We are supposed to figure out who vandalized this house."

"He did of course. Just like him to get someone to do his dirty work. You know the buildings he manages belongs to the Milwaukee mob?"

"Not surprised since this house was apparently owned and occupied by Maxie the Butcher."

That startled the brother-in-law at first. Then he shook his head. "That slimebag. Thinks he can get rich quick. He stole all my sister's money and beat her constantly. Slimebag."

"I have to rejoin my team, so good luck in finding Harold. If you really want to. If there is something here, it won't go to Harold."

"Thanks for that." And he walked away.

A.G. returned to the house to continue the investigation.

Part 3: What was found in the house and what made A.G. really suspicious of the house and what it really contained.

Humorous Signs



FUTURE DEMONSTRATIONS

Meetings are the first Wednesday of the month at 7 pm.
Open house is the second Saturday of the month from
8 am to 12 pm

Meeting Dates and Demonstrations

2026 Nov 4 - Bob Eberhardt - Lamp base with long drilled hole
2026 Dec 2 - Dan Brandner - Turning tiny things
2027 Jan 6—To Be Announced
2027 Feb 3—To Be Announced
2027 Mar 3—To Be Announced
2027 Apr 7—To Be announced

May Open House Date

November 14 from 8:00 am to 12:00pm. If coming after 10:00, please inform us through the web site the night before at: woodturnercvvg@gmail.com. Meetings and Open House are held in the Eau Claire Insulation building at 1125 Starr Ave on the northeast side of Eau Claire, WI. Look for the meeting sign. No sign—No meeting.

Next Month

Bob Eberhardt

Lamp Base with Long Drilled Holes





Pat Smith owner of the Eau Claire Insulation and Roofing Company has made space in his company business for the Chippewa Valley Woodturners Guild since 2011. It has been our meeting and demonstration space for these 15 years. In appreciation for his support of our group a gift certificate for dining at Johnny's Steak House was presented.

SPECIAL PERSON APPRECIATION



October 7, 2026

Pat Smith:

We want to take this opportunity for our Woodturning Guild to convey our sincere appreciation for the facility you have so generously made accessible to us over the years.

It is an exceptional space for us both as a meeting space and a functional workshop. It also allows us to keep our membership dues low and provide resources for over 60 members from all over northwestern Wisconsin.

As a thank you, we'd like you to have this Gift Certificate for dining at Johnny's Italian Steakhouse and hope you have yourself an enjoyable evening out.

Sincerely,

Dan Brandner

Dan Brandner
President CVWG
djbrandner@charter.net
715-305-3449

R. B. Smith

Vice President

Susan Mohr

Treasurer

Jayne Rulberg

Secretary

Chy. Tron

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W. H. Smith
John Taylor

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Maya Weidner

1125 Starr Ave Eau Claire, WI 54703

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woodturnercvvg@gmail.com

Dos and Don'ts with Faceplates



Woodturning Humor

The Vacuum-Sucked Ornament

A turner was putting the finishing touches on a delicate, pierced Christmas tree bell ornament still mounted on the lathe. Deciding it needed a quick pass with sandpaper to soften the outside, they fired up the 4-inch dust collection vacuum tube placed right next to the work. In a fraction of a second, the fragile bell snapped off the wood, flew straight into the vacuum hose, and turned into fine dust. All the turner could do was chuckle, turn off the machine, and call it a day.



[Plum Varieties](#)

[Plum Varieties 2](#)

A Fancy Spindle turned Icicle Ornament

October 2026 Demonstration by Dan Brandner

A Fancy spindle turned icicle ornament looks nice on a Christmas tree and lets you demonstrate some of your spindle turning skills. These turn fairly quickly, attract the eye of those interested and sell well.

Start by selecting an appropriate piece of wood. A pen blank would work, but I cut square stock from a 3/4" maple board, about 7 inches long. I find a lighter color ornament looks better on a tree, and a hardwood like maple takes the fine detail of the spindle well. I've made different sizes and small ones in buckthorn are very eye appealing.



Mark the center of the ends and mount between centers and turn to a cylinder with a spindle roughing gouge. [2000 rpm for this small spindle]



We will be working with both ends in a collet chuck, so turn a 5/8" tenon on both ends after setting the size with a caliper and parting tool. If your blank is smaller, use a smaller collet size

Select which end you want for the tip of the ornament, wanting the grain to be as straight as possible there. Mounting the tenon on the tip end into the collet chuck, aligning the opposite end in the live center before tightening. Then remove the live center and replace it with your drill chuck with a small drill bit.



I used a 1/16" drill for the hole to hold the fine wire loop and split ring I use for hanging. Make sure the drill starts in a cleanly marked hole to begin. You want no wobbling of this small drill bit. [500 rpm for drilling]. I held only a small part of the end of the bit in the chuck so I could drill the hole quite deeply into the blank. Since the end gets parted off later, I want to make sure the hole is deep enough.

Next, remove the stock from the collet chuck and turn it around so the drilled end is now in the chuck.

Realign with a live center tip before tightening the collet to keep things as straight as possible.

OCTOBER DEMONSTRATION

Next are the primary turning steps.

Turn the cylinder into a tapered cone except for the end. Using a roughing gouge, move down the taper so you are cutting the end grain fibers as you form the taper. You want to leave the live cen-



I usually mark off 3 different section down the taper, and will try to duplicate elements in each section. I find this is appealing to the eye. You can use whatever elements you desire. I've used quarter rounds (1/2 beads), three balls in a row of decreasing size, a captive ring element and even a 5-ring small Christmas tree.

After marking I define the sections with the parting tool. I will adjust the parting tool depths as I work on each element



Start at the right (tail stock) end of the taper and work to the headstock end. But remember, cut downhill on all your tapers. I used a skew, but you can use a detail spindle gouge too. I added the grooves with the tip of the skew. Leave parting off the tip until later.

I selected the elements of a quarter round (1/2 bead) above each spindle element, the spindle elements each having 2 grooves for decorations. It is easy to space 2 grooves, but harder to space 3 evenly.

OCTOBER DEMONSTRATION



Above these 3 elements, I turned a ball at the top with two grooves to match. I had to loosen and move the tenon out of the collet chuck a little bit to cleanly turn the ball. I like the ball element on top, and a turner will recognize it as not as easy to turn as it looks. They do get easier to make the more you turn them.



Now, still supported on both ends, is the time to sand and finish. I mostly used the skew so I used a fine sandpaper to touch up the grooves and surfaces, then Aussie oil to give it a shiny finish.



Finally, we can carefully put a fine tip on the bottom of the ornament. I used a skew to narrow the tip down, then backed away the tailstock. Then supporting with your fingers aligned along a close tool rest, refine the tip as desired. Sand and apply the Aussie Oil finish carefully.

OCTOBER DEMONSTRATION



And last, loosen the collet and move the tenon out, all except for 1/8" or so. Align the tip of the final with the tip on a live center before tightening. Then with the lathe running a little slower, reduce the top portion of the ornament above the ball to the desired thickness, then begin to part off with a small spindle gouge. I sanded and applied the Aussie Oil to this portion just before the final part off. After it is completely off, hand sand and rub your Aussie Oil rag over it for a final touch.



All that is left is to apply a little E6000 glue to your wire and insert it into the drilled hole at the top. I picked up these black metal loops and matching small split rings which I think looked great as a final touch on these ornaments.

OCTOBER DEMONSTRATION



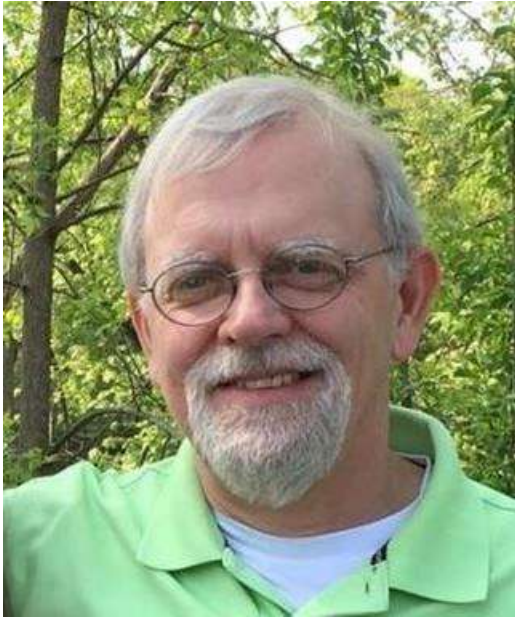
Barry Grill



Barry turned a cherry burl into a hollow form.



Dan Brandner



Dan made several examples of icicle ornaments.

Left: Two made from Buckthorn.

Right: Several woods were used for the assortment.



Bob Eberhardt



Bob made a couple of icicles from Padauk wood.



John Mueller



John made a plate by combining Yellow wood and Walnut (Left).

He also made a plate from spalted Beech (Right).



**Photos for Show and Tell and Gallery provided by
Dan Brandner and Chris Burns**

November 2026

Bowl Turning with Stuart Batty

Starts: Mon, Nov 2, 2026 09:00 AM (MT)

Ends: Fri, Nov 6, 2026 05:00 PM (MT)

Where: 1668 Valtec Lane, Suite H Boulder, CO 80301, 1668 Valtec Lane, Suite H, Boulder, CO 80301



December 2026

Bowl and Spindle Turning with Stuart Batty

Starts: Mon, Dec 7, 2026 09:00 AM (MT)

Ends: Fri, Dec 11, 2026 05:00 PM (MT)

Where: 1668 Valtec Lane, Suite H Boulder, CO 80301, 1668 Valtec Lane, Suite H, Boulder, CO 80301



March 2027

Oregon Woodturning Symposium

Starts: Fri, Mar 19, 2027 08:00 AM (PT)

Ends: Sun, Mar 21, 2027 11:45 AM (PT)

Where: Linn County Expo Center, 3700 Knox Butte Road E., Albany, OR 97322



April 2027

Totally Turning 2027

Starts: Sat, Apr 3, 2027 07:00 AM (ET)

Ends: Sun, Apr 4, 2027 05:00 PM (ET)

Where: Saratoga Springs City Center, Saratoga Springs City Center, Saratoga Springs, NY 12866

